

## Patent claims

1. A body care product, in which porous particles which contain metallic silver, which are formed from metal and which have a mean diameter of between 1 and 100  $\mu\text{m}$  are present.
2. The body care product as claimed in claim 1, wherein the particles have a mean internal porosity of at least 65%, in particular of between 65 and 95%, preferably of between 65 and 90%, in particular of between 70 and 85%, preferably of between 75 and 85%, or preferably of between 85 and 95%, in particular of between 90 and 95%.
3. The body care product as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein the particles are present as agglomerates of metallic primary particles.
4. The body care product as claimed in claim 3, wherein the primary particles have a mean diameter of between 10 and 200 nm, preferably of between 15 and 80 nm.
5. The body care product as claimed in claim 3 or 4, wherein the mean distance between the in each case outermost primary particles at the surface of the agglomerates is in the range of from 20 to 200 nm, preferably of from 100 to 200 nm.
6. The body care product as claimed in one of the preceding claims, wherein the particles have a sponge-like structure.
7. The body care product as claimed in one of the preceding claims, wherein the particles have a mean external diameter of from 2 to 20  $\mu\text{m}$ , preferably of from 2 to 5  $\mu\text{m}$ .

8. The body care product as claimed in one of the preceding claims, wherein the particles have a specific surface of between 2 and 10 m<sup>2</sup>/g, in particular of between 3 and 6 m<sup>2</sup>/g, preferably of between 3.5 and 4.5 m<sup>2</sup>/g.
9. The body care product as claimed in one of the preceding claims, wherein the particles consist of at least 99% w/w, preferably 99.9% w/w, metallic silver.
10. The body care product as claimed in one of the preceding claims, wherein the particles comprise less than 5 ppm of potassium, sodium or chlorine impurities.
11. The body care product as claimed in one of the preceding claims, wherein the particles comprise up to 0.5% w/w metallic zinc and/or up to 0.5% w/w metallic copper.
12. The body care product as claimed in one of the preceding claims, wherein the particles are formed from a silver-zinc alloy or a silver-zinc-copper alloy.
13. The body care product as claimed in one of the preceding claims, wherein the body care product does not comprise any preservatives in addition to the particles.
14. The body care product as claimed in one of the preceding claims, in which the particles are present in a carrier material which consists of a silicone oil, a mineral oil, glycerol or an ointment constituent.

15. The body care product as claimed in one of the preceding claims, wherein the body care product is a preparation which is, in particular, medicinally active, such as an emulsion, a lotion, a gel, a cream, an ointment, a healing ointment, a powder, a cosmetic, a skin protection cream or ointment, a disinfectant, a suspension, a soap, a synthetic surfactant, a bath additive, a peeling preparation, a face lotion, a tooth care product, a toothpaste, a mouthwash, a tooth-cleaning chewing gum, a denture adhesive, a hair shampoo, a sun-screen agent or an absorbent disposable article such as a feminine hygiene article, in particular a sanitary napkin, a panty liner or a tampon, an incontinence liner, a diaper, baby training pants, a medical bandage, a plaster, a nonwoven material, a textile, cellulose, a toothbrush or a pacifier.
16. The use of porous particles which contain metallic silver, which are formed from metal and which have a mean diameter of between 1 and 100  $\mu\text{m}$  for producing a medicament for treating an inflammation and/or an infection in a mammal or human.
17. The use as claimed in claim 16, wherein the mean internal porosity of the particles is at least 65%, in particular between 65 and 95%, preferably between 65 and 90%, in particular between 70 and 85%, preferably between 75 and 85%, or preferably between 85 and 95%, in particular between 90 and 95%.
18. The use as claimed in claim 16 or 17, wherein the particles are present as agglomerates of metallic primary particles.

19. The use as claimed in claim 18, wherein the primary particles have a mean diameter of between 10 and 200 nm, preferably of between 16 and 80 nm.
- 5 20. The use as claimed in claim 18 or 19, wherein the mean distance between the in each case outermost primary particles at the surface of the agglomerates is in the range of from 20 to 200 nm, preferably of from 100 to 200 nm.
- 10 21. The use as claimed in one of claims 16 to 20, wherein the particles have a sponge-like structure.
- 15 22. The use as claimed in one of claims 16 to 21, wherein the particles have a mean external diameter of from 2 to 20  $\mu\text{m}$ , preferably of from 2 to 5  $\mu\text{m}$ .
- 20 23. The use as claimed in one of claims 16 to 22, wherein the particles have a specific surface of between 2 and 10  $\text{m}^2/\text{g}$ , in particular of between 3 and 6  $\text{m}^2/\text{g}$ , preferably of between 3.5 and 4.5  $\text{m}^2/\text{g}$ .
- 25 24. The use as claimed in one of claims 16 to 23, wherein the particles consist of at least 99% w/w, preferably 99.9% w/w, metallic silver.
- 30 25. The use as claimed in one of claims 16 to 24, wherein the particles comprise less than 5 ppm of potassium, sodium or chlorine impurities.
- 35 26. The use as claimed in one of claims 16 to 25, wherein the particles comprise up to 0.5% w/w metallic zinc and/or up to 0.5% w/w metallic copper.

27. The use as claimed in one of claims 16 to 26,  
wherein the particles are formed from a silver-  
zinc alloy or a silver-zinc-copper alloy.
- 5 28. The use as claimed in one of claims 16 to 27,  
wherein the medicament does not comprise any  
preservatives in addition to the particles.
- 10 29. The use as claimed in one of claims 16 to 28,  
wherein the treatment is a topical treatment.
30. The use as claimed in one of claims 16 to 29,  
wherein the medicament is an ointment, a cream or  
a gel.
- 15 31. The use as claimed in one of claims 16 to 30,  
wherein, in the medicament, the particles are  
present in a carrier material which consists of a  
silicone oil, a mineral oil, glycerol or an  
20 ointment constituent.